[22nd September 1961

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : An extent of 38·83 acres of private lands in the Kandiaperi village of Tirunelveli taluk and an extent of 1·59 acres of private lands in the Megamudayarkulam and Ramayanpatti villages of Tirunelveli taluk have been acquired for the installation of a Medium Wave Transmitting Station and Receiving Centre by the All-India Radio. The actual handing over of the lands to the All-India Radio authorities is in progress. In addition to the above private lands an extent of 0·56 acre of poramboke land has been transferred permanently to the Central Government for the above purpose. Apart from the above, no other land or building has so far been given to the All-India Radio for the purpose of setting up new Transmitting and Receiving Stations in this State.

SRI V. K. KOTHANDARAMAN : ஸார், இதை எப்போது ஆரம்பிக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதைப்பற்றி நமது சர்க்காருக்கு ஏதாவது தகவல் வந்துள்ளதா ?

THE HON SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : அவசரமாக வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவசரமாக ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்து கொடுக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் ஆரம்பிப்பார்கள் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன்.

Plastics—Manufacture of

* 1712 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any firm has applied for licence to manufacture plastics; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Government consider that it may be prejudicial to the interests of industries to disclose the details at this stage.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Sir, may I know whether Messrs. Dhrangadhra Chemicals have applied for a licence for the starting of a plastic industry and, if so, may I know why there is delay in granting the licence?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I have just stated that it is not desirable to disclose the names of those who had applied for the licence at this stage.

Price of food articles in hotels

* 1713 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Short Notice question No. 10 on 30th March 1961 the action taken to reduce the price in hotels?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (1) From the reports received from the Collectors, it is found that there has been no appreciable increase in the prices charged by hotels in

22nd September 1961]

Tiruchirappalli, South Arcot, Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli districts. There has also been no increase in the several taluk headquarters except in Coimbatore and Ramanathapuram.

(2) The uniform rise is in the case of coffee, the main ingredients of which are coffee powder and milk. As regards the supply of coffee seeds the Chairman, India Coffee Board, has been asked to report whether anything can be done for the supply of coffee seeds to hotels. The Government of India have been addressed regarding the prospects of getting supply of milk powder for commercial purposes and to allot 10,000 tons per annum to this State. Steps have been taken to supply sugar to the hotels at the controlled price.

(3) The Collector of Madras has reported that some of the owners of the hotels have reduced the enhanced price of coffee from 18 nP. to 16 nP. per cup and that other hotel owners in North Madras who had a proposal to enhance the price of edibles and coffee have refrained from doing so.

(4) There is an increase of five naye Paise to thirteen naye Paise in regard to rates per meal but this increase would appear to be in tune with the general increase in the price levels.

* 1714 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the price of the hotel meals and kerosene have increased since the first week of March 1961; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken to reduce the prices?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) With reference to the steps taken to reduce the price of hotel meals the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer furnished to Legislative Assembly question No. 1713 (starred) by him.

As regards kerosene, the increase in price was due to the levy of additional excise duty on superior kerosene. There has since been a slight downward trend in the price of kerosene in the Madras City consequent on the arrival of Russian kerosene.

* 1715 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Collector of Madras has submitted his report to Government regarding the increase in the prices of foodstuffs in hotels;

(*b*) whether the Government have examined the report and taken any decision thereon; and

(*c*) whether a copy of the report together with the decisions of the Government will be placed in the Library of the Legislature?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) (1) The uniform rise is in the case of coffee, the main ingredients of which are coffee powder and milk. As regards the supply of coffee seeds the Chairman, India Coffee Board, has been